
INVESTING IN AMERICA

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Nebraska

As of August 2023

The Biden-Harris Administration has hit the ground running to implement the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it is already delivering results for the people of Nebraska. To date, \$1.8 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Nebraska with over 212 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately \$1 billion has been announced for transportation – to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports – and roughly \$165 million has been announced for clean water. Nebraska received \$405.3 million to connect everyone in the state to reliable high-speed internet and, as of today, more than 87,000 Nebraska households are already saving on their monthly internet bill due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Many more projects will be added in the coming months, as funding opportunities become grant awards and as formula funds become specific projects. By reaching communities all across Nebraska – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Nebraskans and position the state for success.

Roads and Bridges: In Nebraska, there are 1,220 bridges and over 726 miles of highway in poor condition. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will rebuild our roads and includes the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the interstate highway system. Based on formula funding alone, Nebraska is expected to receive approximately \$2.2 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$920.6 million has been announced in Nebraska for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
 - \$777.1 million in highway formula funding and \$90 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.
 - \$43.4 million through the RAISE program in 2022 and 2023.

Announced Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding is as of August 7, 2023

Internet: High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet, over 70,478 homes and small businesses in Nebraska do not have access to high-speed internet infrastructure. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to everyone in America. The Biden-Harris Administration worked with internet providers to offer high-speed internet plans that are fully covered by the Affordable Connectivity Program — meaning most eligible households can now get high-speed internet without paying a dime.

- **Announced funding to date:** Nebraska has received \$405.3 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) to provide access to high-speed internet to everyone in Nebraska. In addition, about 87,000 households in Nebraska are enrolled in the Affordable Connectivity Program, with more signing up every day. Households can check their eligibility, sign up, and find fully covered internet plans at [GetInternet.gov](https://www.getinternet.gov).

Water: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law represents the largest investment in clean drinking water in American history, including the first-ever dedicated federal funding to replace lead service lines and address dangerous PFAS chemicals.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$144 million has been announced to Nebraska to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
 - \$133 million available in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to provide clean and safe water across the state through the Environmental Protection Agency. Of this funding, \$57 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$39 million for safe drinking water investments that can also support lead pipe replacement in fiscal year 2022 and 2023.

Public Transit: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes the largest investment in public transit in U.S. history. Based on formula funding alone, Nebraska would expect to receive approximately \$191 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the state.¹ This funding will expand healthy, sustainable transportation options in Nebraska, where non-white households are 4.7 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 22% of transit vehicles in the state are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Nebraska has been allocated \$37 million to improve public transportation options across the state in fiscal year 2022 and 2023.

¹ Transit formula funding amounts are subject to changes resulting from the 2020 census or from annual transit service data reported to FTA's National Transit Database.

Clean Buses: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests over \$10 billion for clean public transit and school buses. This includes a \$5 billion investment over the next five years to replace existing school buses with zero-emission and low-emission models. Use of clean school buses promotes cleaner air, reduced health risks, especially for children, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. This year alone, funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will help double the number of clean public transit buses on America's roads.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, schools in Nebraska have been awarded \$2.3 million through the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program.

Electric Vehicle Charging: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$7.5 billion to build the first-ever national network of electric vehicle chargers in the United States and is a critical element of President Biden's plan to address the climate crisis and support domestic manufacturing jobs. Through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program alone, Nebraska should expect to receive roughly \$30 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Nebraska has been allocated \$10.9 million in 2022 and 2023 to build out a network of EV chargers across the state.

Clean Energy & Power: Power outages cost the U.S. economy more than \$70 billion annually. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to upgrade our power infrastructure by making the grid more resilient and building thousands of miles of new transmission lines to deliver clean, affordable electricity. The law also makes a historic investment in clean energy technologies like advanced nuclear, clean hydrogen, carbon capture, and batteries, as well as a historic \$3.5 billion investment in weatherization to improve energy efficiency of homes and lower energy costs for impacted households by an average of \$372 per year.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, approximately \$45 million has been allocated to Nebraska for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:
 - \$24.5 million for weatherization;
 - \$4.6 million through the State Energy Program;
 - \$4 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;

- \$11.6 million to prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient. Additional grid funding will be made available in the coming months.

Airports: According to some rankings, no U.S. airports rank in the top 25 of airports worldwide. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$25 billion in airports to replace and modernize airport infrastructure, which helps the U.S. become more economically competitive globally, creates good jobs, and revitalizes and supports more efficient and enhanced traveler experience.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Nebraska has received approximately \$74.7 million in 2022 and 2023 for airports.

Ports and Waterways: Our ports and waterways are in need of repair and investment. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$17 billion in port infrastructure to strengthen our supply chains, address maintenance backlogs, and reduce congestion and emissions near ports—ultimately helping our country move goods more quickly and at lower cost.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Nebraska has received roughly \$5.2 million in 2022 and 2023 for ports and waterways.

Resilience: Millions of Americans feel the effects of climate change and extreme weather every day. More frequent hurricanes, wildfires, heat waves, floods, unprecedented power outages, and persistent droughts devastate our communities and threaten our infrastructure. In the last decade, Nebraska has experienced 25 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$13 billion in damages. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to bolster our resilience against pressing challenges like impacts of climate change, extreme weather events, and other hazards like cyberattacks.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, approximately \$96.7 million has been allocated to Nebraska for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including \$68 million through the Army Corps of Engineers for flood mitigation.

Legacy Pollution Cleanup: Across the country, thousands of former industrial, chemical, and energy sites emit harmful pollutants into surrounding communities. These sites pose harms to health, welfare, and economic prosperity — and disproportionately impact communities of color: 26% of Black Americans and 29% of Hispanic Americans live within 3 miles of a Superfund site, a higher percentage than for Americans overall. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will deliver the largest investment in tackling legacy pollution in American history by cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites, reclaiming abandoned mines, and capping orphaned oil and gas wells.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, approximately \$26.1 million has been allocated to Nebraska in 2022 and 2023 for capping orphaned oil and gas wells and reclaiming abandoned mine lands and \$26.9 million has been allocated to cleaning up brownfield sites.

For more information, click [here](#) to see a map of funding and announced projects in your community through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Nebraska Project Spotlights

RAISE Grant Program Project Spotlight

Omaha Transportation Planning

The Department of Transportation awarded Omaha Tribe of Nebraska with approximately \$2 million to complete planning and final design for fifteen transportation improvements focused on vehicle and pedestrian safety, ADA compliance, connectivity, water runoff, erosion mitigation, and economic and housing access. The project seeks to improve existing vulnerabilities evident in the failing pavement and gravel roads by reconstructing and repairing the transportation infrastructure in this community. The project demonstrates exceptional collaboration with community partners and plans to include a public involvement process designed to identify critical gaps in the transportation network and address issues faced by resident. Innovation is demonstrated through the planned use of solar lighting and warm-mix asphalt to help reduce carbon emissions.

See [here](#) for a full list of RAISE projects.

Ports Project Spotlight

Gavin's Point Dam, Lewis And Clark Lake

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$1.3 million to the Gavin's Point Dam for repairs for 2019 Flood Damages to Joint Features to include surveys and engineering.

See [here](#) for a list of announced U.S. Army Corps projects.

Middle Mile Broadband Spotlight

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska Fiber-Based Middle Mile Grant

The Department of Commerce awarded approximately \$36 million to Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and its 100% Tribally owned subsidiary Quick Current LLC to deploy a fiber-based middle mile network to cover currently unserved and underserved Tribal and adjacent rural areas in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa. There is a specific focus on providing Middle Mile infrastructure and services to the tribal and surrounding areas of The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa. The Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program plays a critical role in providing quality, affordable high-speed Internet and connecting unserved regions to the Internet backbone.

See [here](#) for more information about Enabling Middle Mile Broadband.

Brownfields Cleanup Project Spotlight

City of Chadron

EPA has awarded \$500,000 to the City of Chadron for a Brownfields Assessment Grant. Community-wide grant funds will be used to conduct 15 Phase I and seven Phase II environmental site assessments. Grant funds also will be used to prepare five cleanup plans and to develop a brownfield site inventory. Priority sites include the Rail Front District near Main Street, a Railroad Park with previous industrial use, a former oil service station, a former power facility, the Roundhouse, which is currently used to refurbish railcars and equipment for the Nebraska Northwester Railroad, an old hospital, and several vacant lots owned by the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

See [here](#) for a list Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (MARC) Grant projects

Clean School Bus Rebate Program Spotlight

Mc Cool Junction Public Schools

The Department of Transportation awarded over \$395,000 in rebates to Mc Cool Junction Public School District to replace existing school buses with electric school buses to reduce harmful emissions from older, dirtier buses.

See [here](#) for the full list of Clean School Bus Rebate Program recipients.

Airport Project Spotlight

Eppley Airfield

The Federal Aviation Administration awarded \$30 million for upgrades to the Eppley Airfield in Omaha. In 2022, the airfield received \$20 million for a new terminal drop-off area and full canopy, increasing capacity by 65% with 7 lines. The project will reduce air pollution and use environmentally responsible infrastructure. The project also includes

improved curb areas for ADA access and public transportation. In 2023, the airfield received \$10 million for additional aircraft gates and other terminal modernization upgrades.

See [here](#) for a map and list of the Airport Terminal awards.

Resilience Project Spotlight

Levee Repairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$67 million for levee repairs following Missouri River Basin flooding.

See [here](#) for a list of announced U.S. Army Corps projects.

Community Wildfire Defense Project Spotlight

Reducing Wildfire Risk in North-Central Nebraska

The Department of Agriculture's Forest Service has awarded \$182,866 to The Nature Conservancy to reduce hazardous fuels and restore fire adapted ecosystems at the 56,000-acre Niobrara Valley Preserve (NVP). This would reduce the severity and impacts of wildfire on surrounding communities. This project spans three years and includes six target sites totaling approximately 435 acres.

See [here](#) for more information on the Community Wildfire Defense Grants.

Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Spotlight

Metropolitan Utilities District

The Department of Transportation awarded \$10,000,000 to the Village of Stuart. The goal is to replace 58 miles of cast iron main and 4,988 services with PE pipe. The applicant also proposes to replace 3,593 inside meters and 2,468 outside meters for safety. In addition, the applicant proposes to replace two regulator stations.

See [here](#) for more information on Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grants.

Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Spotlight

Village of Stuart

The Department of Transportation awarded \$216,662 to the Village of Stuart. The goal is to replace approximately 1 mile of steel and aging PVC gas mains with PE pipe. The applicant also proposes to install 20 new valves, acquire a GPS mapping of natural gas system and add an automated monitoring information system for 24-hour monitoring of gas system segments. The project will help improve public safety, protect public health, and reduce methane emissions from natural gas distribution pipes.

See [here](#) for more information on Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grants.